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DIDSBURY REVIEW

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2012

www.didsburyreview.ca

Volume 25 Issue 21

Pedestrian walks into train in downtown Didsbury

BY JENNIFER ISAAC
For the Review

An 81-year-old Didsbury man was listed in serious condition at Foothills Medical Centre last Friday, after he was struck by a train at a crossing in downtown Didsbury May 15.

"At approximately 3:28 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, a northbound Canadian Pacific train made contact with a pedestrian at the 20th Street railway crossing in Didsbury," said Kevin Hrysko, media relations manager with CP Rail in Calgary. "The crossing is fully equipped with all safety appliances, including lights, bells and gates, that were all functioning at the time of the incident. There are clear sightlines."

The train consisted of two locomotives and two tank cars, and was travelling through town at the normal speed.

It is not known why the man continued on his path to cross the tracks.

"The man was heading east when he walked into the front of the train," said Cpl. Warren Wright of the Didsbury RCMP. "We believe he was clipped by the ladder that is on the front west side of the train."

Witnesses reported that the man was spun around by the impact, before collapsing unconscious to the ground.

"Witnesses went to his aid and called 911," added Cpl. Wright. "He wasn't conscious when the witnesses attended, but he came to soon after."

The man was first taken to Didsbury Hospital with undetermined injuries.

"Later that day, he was transported to Foothills hospital in Calgary, where he was listed in serious condition," Cpl. Wright said.

The train crew "did everything within their means to alert the pedestrian of the approaching train," Hrysko said.

"The crew sounded their whistle and put the train in



Noel West/Didsbury Review

Paramedics attend to the victim of a train accident at the rail crossing at 20 Avenue last Tuesday.

an emergency brake application, but unfortunately, the individual was unresponsive to their attempts and the train made contact," he added.

"CP is fully cooperating with local law enforcement in the investigation as to what led the individual into the activated crossing with an approaching train," Hrysko said.

"These types of incidents are extremely hard on our train crews, whom are unfortunately always the first ones on the scene. We immediately relieved the crew from duty and offered them critical stress counselling, if they choose to take it."

The name of the victim is being withheld, while police and CP Rail continue their investigation.

Cattle liner fire causes mayhem on Highway 2

JULIE BERTRAND
For the Review

A cattle liner fire caused traffic on Highway 2 to be interrupted for several hours last Thursday, as RCMP officers and Alberta sheriffs rounded up 55 head of cattle that had been freed from the burning trailer.

The cattle liner's rear-end brakes caught fire at approximately 4:40 p.m. while it was travelling in

the southbound lanes of the highway, two kilometres south of the Olds overpass.

To save the animals, the first responder on scene, who was a Blackfalds RCMP member, freed the animals.

The cattle went everywhere. It was mass chaos, with about five of us trying to manage traffic along with the head of cattle not running in other traffic in the north and southbound lanes," said Sheriff Peter

Carr, Innisfail Integrated Traffic Unit.

Three of the cattle died as a result of the fire, while one animal had to be euthanized.

The fire was quickly extinguished once the Olds fire department arrived on scene.

According to Olds fire department Chief Lorne Thompson, cattle were running in the northbound and southbound lanes.

"There were no vehicles

moving, so nobody hit any," he said.

Even with the help of Olds RCMP and the Olds fire department, the law enforcement officers struggled to contain the scene.

"I called a Red Deer radio station and I asked for the public's assistance. A lot of us don't have experience with cattle. We are city guys. We asked for help," said Carr.

"We had cattle liners on the way but they were

upwards of two hours away. We could not get hold of Mountain View County for emergency trailers."

With the public's assistance, the emergency responders were able to quickly round up about 40 head of cattle in a field on the west side of the highway by cutting the fence.

"We had assistance from the RCMP Livestock Unit. It was one of the people that must have heard the radio or the timing of that,

offered help, and they came down," said Carr.

"They were of great assistance. They have all the resources and the contacts necessary."

A local farmer even brought his cattle-herding dog to help in the round up.

As this was going on, traffic was brought to a standstill on both sides of the highway, with the Olds fire department closing the highway at the Olds overpass.

See Truck fire p.2

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Madison Samuel-Barclay/Didsbury Review

Trevor Zimmerman (left) shakes hands with Tyler Fleischer (right) after handing him a new, unique belt buckle as a kind gesture to replace the damaged one Fleischer had incurred after a tractor accident.

Lammle's presents special gift to tractor accident victim

BY MADISON SAMUEL-BARCLAY
Review Staff

Lammle's Western Wear & Tack stepped up and "got-r-done" for the lucky survivor of a shocking tractor accident by presenting a now out-of-production, unique belt buckle that was lost in the ordeal.

On April 25, while out feeding the cows on his family farm just east of Didsbury, 16-year-old Tyler Fleischer had tried to jump onto the back of a tractor, but missed one foot on the landing and was pulled into the wheel.

Tyler's father James, as well as the rest of Tyler's family and neighbours, and one paramedic who arrived on the scene, managed to get him out from the tractor.

"I thought for sure he was crushed," said James, recalling the accident. "I had told him a hundred times, don't do it, don't jump on the back like that."

Miraculously though, Tyler managed to survive the accident with just minor injuries, though the unique belt buckle he had been wearing at the time, emblazoned

with the saying "GET-R-DONE", had been bent and damaged beyond wearable repair.

James said that if not for the buckle, which managed to take the majority of the damage the lugs on the tractor's tire had dealt, Tyler may have been in much worse shape.

"At one point in the hospital it almost seemed like he was more upset about the buckle than about himself," said Tyler's sister Nicole.

After the accident, Coreen Baur, a neighbour who was present for the ordeal, went to see about getting a replacement buckle for Tyler.

"I knew he got it at Lammle's," said Baur, adding that the store was a favourite of Tyler's to shop at. "Originally I took it to a jewellers and they said they couldn't fix it, so I came here to try to find another one."

Unfortunately, the buckle was no longer being produced, and only a few, limited copies of it existed in all of Canada. After hearing the story of Tyler's accident from Baur, Lammle's Trevor Zimmerman decided to go ahead

and track down the manufacturer of the unique buckle, and managed to get one, which he presented to an unsuspecting Tyler at the store on May 16.

"It's amazing...I don't know what to say," said Tyler after receiving the new buckle, adding that the accessory and its logo simply "explains so much about me."

"We're such a small world community, so we try to be more like family with customers," said Zimmerman.

"I couldn't believe it. I said 'you gotta be kiddin' me,'" James recalled about receiving the call from Zimmerman about a buckle being found to be given as a gift to Tyler. "We couldn't find it nowhere, and I thought 'Oh boy is he gonna be happy...' Lammle's went out of their way to make that kid happy."

James added that the accident was also a safety lesson well-learned by Tyler and the rest of the family.

"It's something you never want to see again, wrapped up as tight as he was," said James. "But while we were all shocked at the time, we stayed together."

Truck fire

Continued from p.1

"The traffic was backed up probably for a good four to five hours," said Carr.

"Then, once we had the cattle contained in the west fields, we opened the high-

way down to one lane."

While waiting for a big-rig towing company to arrive, the emergency responders had to shift the cattle liner.

"We actually had to take the cattle liner itself north-bound in the southbound lanes," said Carr.

"It couldn't just be towed normally, because the frame was melted."

The cattle liner was taken

off the highway at approximately 7:30 p.m. The Innisfail Integrated Traffic Unit and Blackfalds Traffic members then departed, leaving the task of rounding up the missing cattle to Olds RCMP, Didsbury RCMP, and the RCMP Livestock Unit.

"I know they rode on their quads to round up the cattle," said Carr.

According to the Innisfail Integrated Traffic Unit and the Olds fire department, both the cattle owners and the cattle liner are out of

Taber. The cattle were on their way to a feedlot in Picture Butte.

The RCMP, the Alberta Sheriffs and the Olds fire

department would like to thank the public for their assistance.

"It was greatly appreciated," said Thompson.

THANK YOU

2012 Didsbury Show and Shine would like to thank:

The Town Of Didsbury

Mayor Brian Wittal

Didsbury Volunteer Fire Department

First Didsbury Beavers Cubs Scouts

Carstairs Fuel Junkies Car Club

Didsbury High School Students

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106 The Drive

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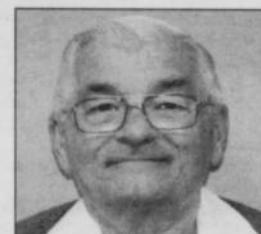
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Cattle run along a ditch parallel to the southbound lanes of Hwy. 2 between the Olds and Didsbury overpasses after being released from a burning cattle liner Thursday evening.



Noel West/Didsbury Review

Opinion

Editorial

Time for Canada's 'monsters' to pay the ultimate price



DAN
SINGLETON

Last week's sentencing of an Ontario man for the vicious sexual assault and murder of an eight-year-old girl has once again raised the question of whether the ultimate penalty for such crimes currently allowed under Canadian law adequately condemns such criminals.

And although the crimes in this case occurred in another part of Canada, residents of West Central Alberta obviously also have a vested interest in having a criminal law that provides protection for society's most vulnerable citizens, its children and other young people.

Michael Rafferty, who abducted and later killed schoolgirl Victoria Stafford in April 2009, was sentenced to the maximum penalty currently allowed under Canadian law: 25 years in prison before being eligible for parole.

"You, sir, are a monster," Justice Thomas Heaney told Rafferty in passing sentence. "You have snuffed out the life of a beautiful, talented, vivacious little girl in the trustful innocence of childhood."

Although sentenced to 25 years, Rafferty will actually be able to apply for release under the so-called 'faint-hope' clause after serving only 15 years – that is, in 2027, when Victoria Stafford would have been 23 years old.

Although Rafferty was handed the maximum penalty allowed under Canadian law, the question remains: Is 25 years in prison really a fitting penalty for such a grave and terrible crime?

And a second related question is, has the public been adequately protected by having Rafferty locked up and allowed to simply wait out his time until he can apply for release or until he manages to escape?

To both questions the answer is no.

The bottom line is that, for many, many Canadians, the only adequate and fitting penalty for criminals such as Michael Rafferty is death.

Yet the Harper Tories, with their comfortable majority in the House of Commons, have steadfastly refused to reopen the capital punishment debate. What is behind this puzzling inaction remains anyone's guess.

The recent death of child killer Clifford Olsen in prison for crimes he committed decades ago finally brought an end to his horrific story of child sexual assault and murder.

Yet last week's sentencing of Michael Rafferty points to the fact that very little has changed with Canadian sentencing laws over all those years – Canadian child killers continue to live out their lives in relative safety and comfort while their victims' families get nothing but grief and heartbreak.

Calls for Canada to bring back capital punishment have been made to the Harper government many, many times over the past decade. Perhaps it's time for Tory MPs to start listening?



LABOUR RELATIONS 101 IN QUEBEC

Commentary

It's time to end welfare

Some claim that governments can reduce poverty by raising welfare rates and making benefits easier to get. However, the only real poverty reduction in half a century of welfare policy has come about by raising employment rates, not welfare rates.

Work is good for people, and more people working is good for society. For many adults, if not most, who find themselves on welfare, employment is by far the most likely path out of poverty. Among female single parents, for example, poverty and dependency rates have declined as their employment rates have increased.

Yet, hundreds of thousands of Canadians still remain on welfare. If the task before us is to move more low-income citizens from dependency to employment, from poverty to prosperity, welfare is part of the problem, not the solution.

Welfare competes with wages. When welfare benefits are higher than earnings, dependency increases. When welfare becomes an attractive alternative to work, it becomes less sustainable because fewer people are working and paying taxes to support more who are not working. This fact means that there are very real limitations on how far governments can go to reduce poverty through passive benefits like welfare.

Canada very nearly reached the limits of welfare policy 20 years ago when about one in eight Canadians relied on welfare for their living. The more enlightened governments of the

day responded wisely, restructuring benefits to make work more attractive and beefing up employment services. The result has been lower welfare dependency, steadily declining poverty rates, and a modestly more inclusive society.

There are, however, still many single individuals and family heads on welfare who are capable of working but do not. Too many children still grow up in workless households, never themselves developing a work ethic. It makes little sense at any time, but particularly where there is strong labour demand.

The key weakness of the welfare system is that it pays people not to work. Over the long term, people will tend to do what they are paid to do. In this sense, the welfare system itself has created a category of citizens who are chronically workless and outside the margins of the labour force.

To change this situation, we will need to leave behind the notion that fighting poverty is just about giving money to the poor because we know that how people get their money is important too. The best way to reduce poverty is to increase employment among low-income adults and to make sure that working is fairly rewarded.

Part of this can be achieved by more rigorous work expectations. We need to make sure that governments do not drive entry-level jobs out of the economy because these are the jobs that welfare recipients need most. We also need to make

sure that people who do honest work have a reasonable living standard and have opportunities to move up in the world over time.

Social policy can help or hinder this plan. Welfare has too often been seen as an acceptable alternative to work. Its administration is complex, cumbersome and often demoralizing to beneficiaries. To move to a better approach, we should strip welfare to its basics – replacing most of what is now in welfare with work-friendly social supports.

If we are to invest public money in an individual, we need to make sure that our investments are socially useful. A supplement or support to a low-income working person costs less than welfare and produces better outcomes. Services to move adults from welfare to work would cost money, but would pay a huge and long-lasting dividend.

The welfare system was created with good intentions as a way to offer social protection and fight poverty. Because it exists, there is virtually no involuntary destitution in Canada, and that achievement should be noted. As a tool against poverty, however, it has most certainly failed.

Canada could be a country where effort and reward still count, but where every adult who participates and contributes is part of a community of citizens. Moving closer to that goal means leaving the welfare era behind, and moving on to a more modern and dynamic social policy.

Rick August is a Regina-based independent social policy analyst.

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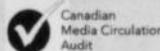
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Letters to the editor: Letters submitted for publication must be signed and bear the address, phone number and e-mail address of the writer. Please keep your letter to 500 words or less. Letters may be edited for grammar, punctuation, spelling, length and libel. Unsigned letters will NOT be published. Use of pseudonyms will be permitted only under special circumstances, provided the writer's identity is known to The Review.

News and photos: If you have a news item or a photo opportunity you feel may be of interest to readers, please call 335-3301.

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SAFETY FIRST - Peace officer Melissa Trotter, left, watches while fellow officer Dana Jones hands a card promoting traffic safety to a driver next to Ross Ford Elementary last Tuesday. Students in grades 2 to 4 drew pictures and wrote messages on the cards asking drivers to slow down and thanking them for caring about their safety.

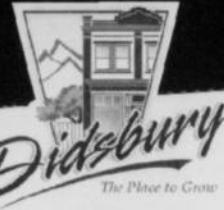
Noel West/Didsbury Review



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TOWN OF DIDSBUY



Town Office: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.3391
Public Works: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.8343
Information Line 403.335.2030
After hours pager 403.507.3624
Didsbury Neighborhood Place 403.335.8719
Aquatic Centre and Arena 403.335.7369

ROLLOUT CART PICK UP SCHEDULE

May	June
Black Bin 8, 9, 22, 23	5, 6, 19, 20
Green Bin 1, 2, 15, 16, 29, 30	12, 13, 26, 27



Work with us!

The Town of Didsbury is currently accepting applications for:

Lifeguard - part-time

For more details and how to apply, please visit our website at www.didsbury.ca/town/careers.

OFFICE CLOSURE

Please be advised that all Town of Didsbury facilities, excluding the Didsbury Memorial Complex, will be closed at 2:00 pm Friday, May 25, 2012 to participate in the annual Spring Clean-Up Campaign

NEW DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Development Permits have been issued for the following proposed developments:

DP 12-13	201, 2034 - 19 Avenue	Change of Use - Dental Laboratory w/conditions	C1
DP 12-28	2017 - 24 Avenue	Addition & Replacement Front Porch, Rear walk-out w/conditions	R2

Further information may be obtained at the Town Office, 2037 - 19 Avenue or by calling 403.335.3391. Persons wishing to appeal any of these decisions must do so in writing, with the appropriate fees, to the Secretary, Development Appeal Board, prior to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday June 6, 2012.

Dani Woodman - Development Officer

Know What's in Your Garden!

Please watch that you are not planting Prohibited Noxious or Noxious weeds in your flowerbed this spring.



With the Alberta Weed Control Act updates, there are plants listed in the Act that are regulated and should be avoided. Some of these varieties may be found for sale or in flowerbeds. These species of plants that appear on the Act have been found to be problematic due to their invasive nature and lack of native controls. It is every landowner's responsibility to destroy Prohibited Noxious weeds and to control Noxious weeds.



For a complete list of the of the weeds on the Alberta Weed Control Act Regulation, contact your local weed inspector at 403.994.0474 or visit: mountainviewcounty.com/weeds.

YOUR RECYCLING DEPOT

The Public Works crew works hard to maintain the recycling depot located at 2602 - 19 Street; however there are some users that take advantage of the recycling center by dumping unacceptable items there. When this happens, the Town must take the items to the landfill resulting in an added cost to you, the taxpayer, in manpower and landfill charges.

For a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable items, please pick up a copy of the Residents Guide to Recycling & Composting available at the Town Office, Public Works office or online at www.didsbury.ca/town/garbage.

PUBLIC MEETINGS	
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m.	
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING: Tuesday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m.	
MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION: Wednesday, June 13 at 4:30 p.m.	
LIFELINE SOCIETY MEETING: Monday June 11 at 10:00 am	
Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held in Council Chambers at the Town Office.	
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!	
Spring Clean-Up Week May 22 to May 26, 2012	
Residents are encouraged to clean up their properties and take advantage of the "Landfill Days" beginning Tuesday, May 22 thru Saturday, May 26 from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm (Saturday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm).	
To access the landfill site, please pick up a tag (with proof of residency ie. utility bill) at the Public Works Shop, for a fee of \$15 between May 1 - 19. This tag needs to be handed in to the attendant at the Landfill Site upon arrival. Individuals who do not hand in a tag, regular landfill rates will be applied at the site. The tag will only honour ½-ton or ¾-ton trucks.	
Tuesday, May 22 - White Day The Town will collect appliances from your residence providing it has been placed on the curb. A tag will be issued upon request for a fee of \$15. Only fridges, freezers, stoves, washers, dryers, dishwashers and bathtubs will be picked up.	
Wednesday, May 23 - Curbside Day Elderly or disabled requiring curbside pickup, please make arrangements at the Public Works Shop when picking up a tag, for a fee of \$10 between May 1 - May 19. Please hand in your tag to the attendant picking up for you.	
As per Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission guidelines: scrap metal, propane tanks, waste oil, and household hazardous waste can be accepted at the site. Be advised that MATERIALS MUST BE SORTED	
PRIOR TO ARRIVING AT THE SITE. This will save your time, the landfill attendant's time and others trying to access the site's time.	
For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at 403.335.8343 or online at www.didsbury.ca .	
2012 PROPERTY TAXATION NOTICES	
Town of Didsbury Tax Notices were mailed on MAY 15, 2012 .	
TAXES ARE DUE JUNE 30, 2012 with the 1 st penalty being applied July 3, 2012. (exception: ANNEXED PROPERTIES ONLY - due date is September 15, 2012)	
If you have not received your Property Taxation Notice within two weeks of the above date, please contact the Tax Department at 403.335.3391 ext. 1107.	



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Young Chefs: Friday June 1 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Cost is \$38.00.

Babysitting Course: Friday June 1 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Cost is \$55.00.

For more information or to register for any upcoming program, call Didsbury Neighborhood Place at 403.335.8719.

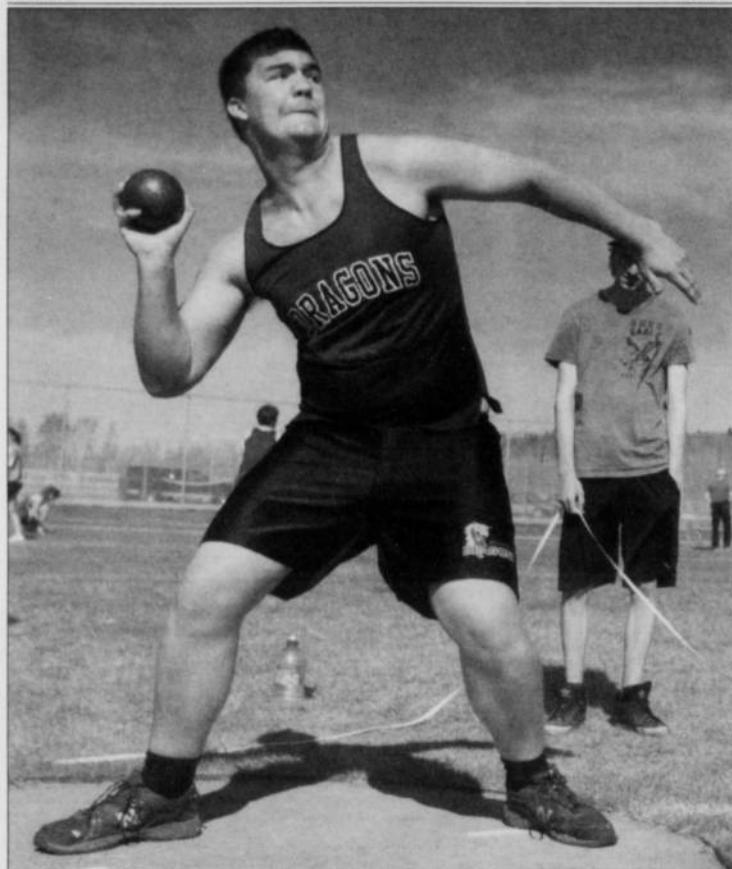


TREES AND HEDGES

Overgrown trees and hedges can be a significant safety hazard for pedestrians as well as a sight-line hazard for drivers.

Now that spring is here, we would like to remind residents to trim back any overgrown shrubs and low-hanging tree branches to eliminate these hazards.

Track & Field



Noel West/Didsbury Review
Didsbury High School student Mike Northcott competes in the shot put event during a CESAA track meet held at Sundre High School last Wednesday.



Noel West/Didsbury Review
Didsbury High School student Natasha Gerber, middle, competes in the intermediate girls 100m event during the track meet.



Noel West/Didsbury Review
Didsbury High School student Courtney Missikewitz, middle, competes in the 100m hurdles event during the track meet.



COW-A-BUNGA FAMILY DANCE

WHEN: Thursday, May 31, 2012
WHERE: Ross Ford Elementary School
TIME: 6:00 to 8:30 pm
WHAT: Silent auction, raffles, BBQ (hamburgers & hotdogs), beverages. Come, have fun.
\$2 per person, \$5 per family

Lots of fun 4 the whole family ... 4 a good cause!

This family dance, BBQ, silent auction and raffles is truly one of the highlights on Ross Ford's annual calendar ... make sure you don't miss it. If any individual or business would like to contribute items for the raffles, silent auction or food/beverages, please contact the school at 403-335-3234
WHY: To raise money for an accessible playground structure that all children can enjoy.

Interested in a way of getting healthy and fit for the summer? Come and see a demonstration of a HyperVibe exercise machine by Revibe in Didsbury and buy a raffle ticket for \$5.00 for your chance to win this machine. To celebrate the summer solstice we will raffle it off on Wednesday June 20, 2012. Tickets for this special raffle will be sold until 12 noon on June 20, 2012.

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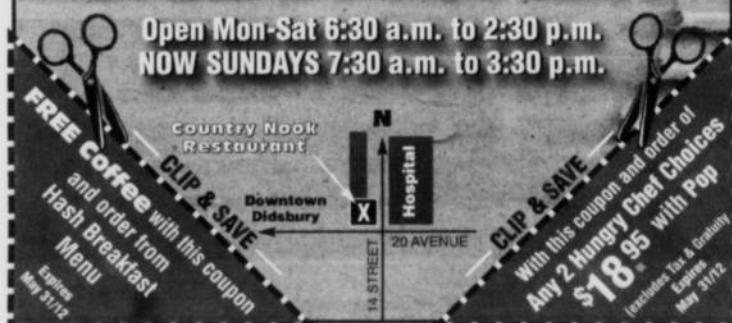
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Menu by
Chef Jin

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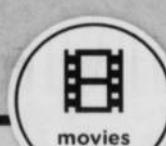
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Noel West/Didsbury Review

KICK-START - A Didsbury U14 player tries to get the ball past a pair of Carstairs players during their game in Carstairs last Tuesday.

Registration kicks off for Didsbury Dragons

Spring camp and clinic enthuse players for a new football year

BY MADISON SAMUEL-BARCLAY
Review Staff

Registration for the Didsbury Dragons' fall football season officially began on May 17, with team staff looking forward to having the opportunity to play on the new Didsbury High School football field this year.

While the season doesn't officially start until a first game in September, registration will continue throughout the summer, and a camp will be held on May 22 to 24, with a clinic featuring coaches from the University of Calgary on

May 26.

Only registered players will be able to participate in the early camp and clinic.

Head coach Mark Lefebvre will be joined by assistant coaches Darren Berg, Doug Wilson and Nick Fisher this year, and he is looking forward to what he describes as a year with "a lot of firsts".

"Lots of our veterans graduated last year, but every year that happens," said Lefebvre. "We always find the kids, rally them and they compete well."

The opportunity to play on the new high school field, which had been a

longtime project that DHS principal Garth Dagg was involved with, has helped open all sorts of exciting doors for the team.

"We're excited about the chance to practise and play on the field," said Lefebvre.

"It's a big boost for our guys, to not be embarrassed about the field we bring games to. We're excited about the community backing us more as well, we have lots supporting us, and we're thankful for that."

With the new football field comes a need to seek out new assistants for the year as well though,

Lefebvre added. The team will be on the lookout for those able to help keep time, use yardsticks, help prepare the field and more, as the season plays out.

Lefebvre was also pleased to announce that the team will be looking to do some fundraising for further additions to the new field, such as a scoreboard, and is hoping that the team will be able to host some pre-game tailgate barbecue parties during the season.

Those interested in registering are asked to call Duke Moreau at 403-335-4948.

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Challenger Soccer Camp brings best of European soccer skills to Didsbury

BY MADISON SAMUEL-BARCLAY
Review Staff

The Challenger Soccer Camp will be returning to Didsbury for its fourth year, and registration has begun for the unique sport experience from August 22 to 26.

The camp is a part of Challenger Sports' North American-wide camp program, which sees highly-qualified instructors from the United Kingdom bringing the European enthusiasm and skill sets of soccer to children ages three to 16.

"Past camps have been very successful. We've had lots turn out, as many as 20 or 30 children at each camp so far," said camp co-ordinator Vicki Godsall.

Godsall, who took over the camp co-ordinator spot, said part of her interest for helping to keep the camp going was seeing how much her daughter had enjoyed taking part.

"My daughter enjoyed it so much," she said. "It's also a British soccer camp because of the instructors. With European teachers there's a different set of skills, and the sport is huge in Europe. They're wanting to introduce that fun and enthusiasm here."

The camp will be held at the ball diamond beside the Memorial Complex, and indoor sessions will be available should there be inclement weather during the week of the camp.

Registration is being held through the Memorial Complex, but online registration is also available at www.challengersports.com, where those who sign up before June 7 will receive a free sports jersey.

"It's a fantastic week, and it's good to get the kids out and running around," said Godsall. "The coaches bring a lot of skill with them and it teaches kids all of the skill required to go forward with playing soccer."

THANK YOU

The staff and students at Didsbury High School would like to thank the community for another successful May Monarch fundraising campaign.

A special thanks to AG Foods and K&W for their support of our annual kick-off BBQ lunch.



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LAURIE DIANE PFAFF (nee WOOD)

Laurie was born in Didsbury on September 18, 1954. Her parents were Donald and Gwen Wood. She had three sisters (Kay, Glenda and Melanie) and one brother (Cam). She attended school in Didsbury through grade 12 and went on to Mount Royal College in Calgary for a year to attend the secretarial school there. She later attended Marvel Beauty School in Calgary and achieved her journeyman hair dressing certificate.



In the early 1960s, Laurie was a Brownie and later a Girl Guide (Mom was the leader for both these groups and all four girls were Brownies and Guides at some point). But Laurie's passion was her figure skating... she loved the time on the ice. Most mornings, she would walk to the rink around six o'clock and skate till eight, then walk home for breakfast and off to school for the day and then back to the rink after school. Mom made her first skating dress for her and she was so proud of that dress... it was turquoise velvet with lots of sequins. Laurie did very well in her skating, achieving the level to become a figure skating teacher. She taught skating in Airdrie when it was still an outdoor rink and she always said that the kids were so keen, that they didn't mind the cold and wind - so long as they could figure skate.

All of us will remember Laurie's great love of animals. She always had a pet or pets - whether it was dogs or cats. Her Doberman, Shea, was her best loved dog for all time. Even in hospital, she mentioned Shea a couple of times. But all animals were special to her; she fed stray cats and made warm places for them to sleep out in the garage this past winter and that wasn't the first time that the strays were treated so well either!! Laurie met Terry Pfaff in the 1970s and they were later married. They became the proud parents of Justin Michael on June 23, 1982. As happens quite often, the marriage faltered but Laurie in her quiet, determined way made the best of things as a single mom.

Laurie had an elegant nature about her that was very attractive to everyone. Even though her life was fraught with demons, she maintained a quiet dignity that was untouchable and separate from everyday troubles. We keep hearing about how she was one of the sweetest people that anyone could ever know; and also that it was that sweetness which oftentimes was her downfall... she could not see anyone go without or be alone. Often SHE would go without or be alone, just so everyone else was in a better state.

A few years ago, she took the phlebotomy course. A phlebotomist is the person at the hospital lab who takes your blood. Laurie did so well in the course achieving 96% on her final test. When it came to poking people with needles, she tried and tried but it was no good; she felt the pain for her patients too much and she was so afraid of causing them even more pain. SHE, who

would not inflict pain or hurt on anyone, in the end suffered great pain and hurt herself from her disease and we all kept saying how that just was not fair. We all wanted better for our Laurie.

Probably the most endearing quality Laurie possessed was that she saw the good in everyone, no matter what. Sometimes it was astonishing what she could see, but she would stand by anyone and point out their good qualities, even though the rest of the world couldn't seem to see past the exterior to the inner being.

Laurie was diagnosed with hepatic duct cancer during the first week in April and for five weeks, she fought the battle like a trooper. She suffered through the many tube placements and IV hook ups with quiet determination, yet things just weren't meant to be and nothing seemed to work the way we all hoped it would. Last Friday, when Melanie visited her, they sat outside in the warm morning sunshine - Laurie loved the warmth and sunshine of summer - even the last two days in hospital, when the sun was shining through the window, she basked in it!!! The outdoor world of camping, fishing and BBQing were Laurie's world. When asked what he would like to hear about his Mom, Justin remembered how she would walk him through life lessons and show him where he was wrong. She was his world and she meant the world to him. He recalled that even though his Mom walked many paths, she always came home to Grandma to help watch over her.

Laurie worked with Cam and Mary and their family at the K&W and they remembered and talked about Laurie's great love for any kind of music and dancing - to her, music said it all. One day in hospital, Laurie told Glenda that she had always wanted to learn to ballroom dance!!!

Laurie worked in the flower shop with Mom for several years and was able to nourish her love for flowers. We remembered her passion for hats - and sometimes the flowers and hats would appear together to show off her little eccentric ways!!! FUNKY is the word that many people have used to describe our Laurie.

Melanie wrote a short note to Laurie which says it all: "I won't share memories, but I won't pass on the chance to pay tribute to Laurie, my sister, my friend, my protector. She was always there for the good and the bad. She was compassionate, caring and loving. We laughed, we cried, we talked, we fought and we had many great road trips. We shared life for 55+ years. So, Laurie, wherever you are, know I wouldn't have given up a moment of our time and only wish it could have been longer. I love you Laur and thank you for everything."

Laurie passed away in Foothills Hospital, Calgary on May 7, 2012 at the age of 57. She will be greatly missed by many.

Keith (Bud) Yates 1938 - 2012

Bud Yates long time resident of the Bottrel area passed away on May 3 at the age of 74 after loosing a battle with cancer.

Bud was born on January 8, 1938 on the family farm south of Kipling Saskatchewan and soon after the family moved to a farm near Reston Manitoba.

After leaving school Bud worked for a stock contractor in Saskatchewan until he discovered his passion for trucks and heavy equipment. Bud drove truck hauling freight until 1973, he then operated heavy equipment building oil leases and roads. He worked for DBC Construction out of Crossfield for 30 years and retired in 2005.

Bud was predeceased by his parents Martha and Bert, sisters Grace and Donna and brother Jim. He leaves behind his sister Joanne, nephews Peter and Brad, great nephews Tyler and Thomas, nieces Joan, Victoria and Donna Lee, great-nieces Jackie, Heather and Kristi and great-niece Yvette.

Bud will always be remembered for his passion for his job and his animals and the pleasure he had being with friends and family.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to the Bethany Care Center in Cochrane or the Southwood Hospice in Calgary.

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Dorothy Doreene Gillrie (nee Ringheim) August 28, 1932 - April 5, 2012



It is with tremendous sadness that our wonderful mother passed away peacefully on a snowy day, in the springtime. She lived her life with a positive outlook and a kind heart. Born in Fort Macleod, Alberta, Dorothy was the youngest of ten children born to Mae and Henry Ringheim. Four sons, Melvin, John, Lloyd and Lee were firstborn, followed by six daughters; Bessie, Mary, Mae, Gladys, Norma and Dorothy.

The family moved to Didsbury when Dorothy was five years old. Other than working and living in Lethbridge for two and a half years, Dorothy lived her life in the Didsbury area. As a young girl, Dorothy enjoyed ice skating and roller skating. She worked as a telephone operator for several years. In 1954 she became engaged to Dorn Gillrie. They were married in April during a spring storm. Together they raised four children; Karen, Susan, Mark and Lisa. While raising her family, Dorothy made her home a loving and happy environment. She was an amazing cook who always welcomed company into her home. Dorothy belonged to the Knox United Church Choir, as well as taught Sunday School, and also volunteered as a youth counselor. Dorothy was a natural musician, playing by ear any instrument she picked up. Not only was she an accomplished sewer, putting her designing talents to wedding attire, as well as apparel for ladies, she was also very involved in the art world, selling a portion of her artwork to the oil industry. She enjoyed curling in the winter and golfing in the warmer months. Dorothy loved to watch the birds on the farm, especially the eagles, keeping a pair of binoculars close by. She was an avid sports fan, always loyal to the Calgary Flames and the Calgary Stampeders.

It was a rare day that her competitive side didn't challenge someone to a game of crib, usually with a winning score. Dorothy's favourite time of the year was Christmas. Her home was always decorated beautifully with plenty of baking and great meals. After mastering the floral industry, she opened her own shop called Flowers By Dorothy. After six years in the industry, she sold her shop. She then worked in the industry a few more years, before retiring. Dorothy always said that her most rewarding accomplishment in her life was raising wonderful children and welcoming grandchildren and great-grandchildren into her life. She was extremely proud of her children and their spouses, whom she also considered to be her children. Dorothy was a very intelligent and wonderful lady. She was beautiful and had the heart of an angel. Mom, we will always miss you and love you.

You will never be forgotten!

With love from your Family,
Karen and Richard Baudistel & Family
Susan and Michael Van Geel & Family
Mark and Margaret Gillrie & Family
Lisa and Tony McQuarrie

There will be a memorial tea in Dorothy's honour June 10, 2012 at 2:00 at Sunrise Village In Olds, Alberta.

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THANK YOU

We would like to express our sincere thanks for all the thoughtfulness shown to us during the recent passing of our mother, Dorothy Gillrie.

You had helped us through a very difficult time in our lives. It was very much appreciated.

Karen & Richard Baudistel & Family

THANK YOU

Thank you to the doctors & nurses at the Didsbury Hospital for the outstanding care given to Betty Lou, during her illness. Gratitude is extended to the Evangelical Missionary Church family, friends, & relatives. The prayers, flowers, cards, and food. Many visitations to our dearly departed were appreciated.

Harry Penner & Family



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